THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) No. Sir.

(b) does not arise.

(c) Central Government does not provide fund/financial assistance to State Minorities Commission.

Schemes of Grant-in-aid to various social Organizations

1148. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of schemes of Grant-in-aid available for various categories of social organisations and physically handicapped welfare organizations, alongwith details thereof;

(b) the total allocation for these schemes and guidelines thereof;

(c) the normal time taken for release of Grant-in-aid under these schemes; and

(d) how many such schemes are pending with Government; Statewise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) The schemes of Grant-in-aid available for various categories of social organizations and physically handicapped welfare organizations are indicated below:

	Name of the Scheme	Budget Allocation
1.	Promote Voluntary Action for Persons with Disabilities.	62.29
2.	Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase of Aids/Appliances.	30.00
3.	Prevention of Alcoholism & Substance (Drugs) Abuse.	19.00
4.	Grant-in-aid Programme for Assistance in the field of Social Defence.	1.01
5.	Integrated Programme for Older Persons.	10.00
6.	Assistance to Panchayati Raj/Voluntary Organizations/Self Help Group for Construction of Old Age Homes/Multi Service Centres for Older Persons.	2.39
7.	Integrated Programme for Street Children.	9.00
8.	Grant-in-aid Voluntary Organiations Working for the Welfare of Scheduled Castes.	30.00
9.	Scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Organizations Working for the Other Backward Classes.	2.50
10.	Scheme of Pre-examination Coaching for the Other Backward Classes.	2.50
11.	Scheme of Pre-examination Coaching for Weaker Sections based on Economic Criteria.	2.50

The grants to the organizations are sanctioned on the basis of norms of Schemes. The board criteria for giving grant-in-aid under the scheme are:—

Recommendation along with inspection report of the Designated Authority, Financial position of organization, Credibility of the project and Location of the project.

(c) There is no specified time to sanction projects. The time for disposal of application depends upon the receipt of documents and recommendation of appropriate authorities.

(d) No schemes are pending with Government.

Vrindaban Widows living in Sub-human conditions

1149. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Vrindaban widow await death living in sub-human conditions; and

(b) if so, the measures proposed to ensure social justice and human rights to such helpless widows?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) According to the information furnished by the Department of Women and Child Development (Ministry of Human Resource Development), the Department has received a report on the widows in Vrindavan prepared by UP State Welfare Advisory Board and also an interim report on the widows of Vrindavan prepared by the West Bengal Women Commission from the State of West Bengal. Both these reports had observed that the widows of Vrindavan have a depend on alms as the support provided by the Bhajanshrams and charitable institutions which is not sufficient enough.

(b) The Department of Women and Child Development has set up a Committee under the Chairpersonship of Minister of State for Women and Child Development to co-ordinate the efforts of Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal Governments and Central Government organizations for rehabilitation of the marginalized women of Vrindavan and to monitor flow of benefits of Central Schemes to the target group. Besides, there are various Central Government Schemes for self employment for women such as Setting up of Employment-cum-Income Generating Units for Women